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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Washington, D. C.,
May 25, 1877.

There is a class of men here who desire war with Mexico and who hope to bring it about through the not over peaceful minded General Sherman. Beyond rigid protection of American citizens to secure which war is not necessary, the Government ought not to go. There is something mean in these, continual threats against a weak power like Mexico. We hardly treat her better than we have treated South Carolina and Louisiana. If she had the strength we have we would be more circumspect.

Senator Blaine may have told the truth when he lately denied having had correspondence with Packard, but he can no longer make the assertion. The following is Packard's last message to Blaine, of yesterday's date.

"The overthrow of the lawful State Government was appropriately celebrated to-day. Detachments of the Army and Navy of the United States participated with the White League of Alabama and Louisiana in this celebration of Democratic success. Did poetic justice require that the honors of this achievement should be thus equally divided in the absence of commission? The gray was accorded the post of honor to the blue and asked no apology. The custom-house and post office are closed in admiration of the event. It is probable that United States interference will not be required hereafter."

By all means let the Republican br three dwell together in harmony and cherish only kindly feelings for each other. The reply for Mr. Blaine will be anxiously looked for.

If the Administration is to have a thick and thin organ here it must establish a new paper. The *Republican* for two days past has protested against the postponement of the extra Session of Congress. This is significant, as that paper has lived through the last four administrations, without having expressed disapprobation, of any one executive act. The present project is to establish a paper to be owned partly by Democrats, partly by Republicans, and partly by business men and if arrangements can be made, a very able paper will be the result.

You will have seen the vigorous but most unjust attack of Fred Douglass on our city of Washington. Mr. D., undoubtedly counted the cost before he thus published his opinions. It is to the very class reviled by Douglass that the President is paying special court. He has called several times on our great banker and philanthropist, Corcoran, and in many ways seeks to induce conservative citizens to call upon him.

Douglass must have known his bitter speech would cast him his office.

Just what place he looks for in the Republican opposition to Hayes is uncertain, but his lot must be cast with them.

It is well understood that the late story assigning to Genl. John B. Gordon a place in the Cabinet was pure invention, as he would not accept the position if the President were to offer it to him. But there is a part of the story which may have foundation—that which refers to the proposed withdrawal of Attorney General Devens. He is known to dislike the position. It is possible he may be offered the vacant bench in the Supreme Court though the friends of Bristow say that the place is already promised.

REMO.

A KE TUCKY dentist undertook to plug one of the teeth of a favorite mule. He bored and bored until the drill struck something that seemed to lift the animal's soul right off its hinges. That's the way the coroner explained it and since then a wild mule has been galloping up and down the country seeking for fresh worlds to conquer.

"LOST HIS AMBITION."

We met, the other day, an expert workman who said that he had lost his ambition. "Where is my incentive?" said he. "I am only a mortal, just like other men. Energy among others is a means to end. Health, fame, ease and luxury are the prizes for men strive. Show me the man who is energetic in a single cause in which one of these is not the aim, the incentive and the reward, and answer me honestly how can I make an exercise of more than common energy or industry subservient towards giving me one of these prizes."

"You will never be out of work and will always command respect," was the answer. He smiled, and holding a scraper in one hand a file in the other, replied: "I never was out of work a day; I am too well known. I put forth my energy when I want work and get it at once. Having got it, I work along easily and pleasantly; am always on the best of terms with employer, get the best of wages, work ten hours a day, and jog disinterestedly along my ambition, energy and extra ability rusting away for want of the incentive which all men require to call forth more than ordinary exertion. Now where is my remedy?" "Piece-work," was the suggestion made in reply.

"You have struck it," was the response. "When I worked on piecework, the work I did seemed mine; every job well done brought me more work; I engaged other men and taught the boys all I know; every scrap of information I gave to men or boys brought me in money by increasing their skill; every extra dozen blows I struck were represented in my wages on Saturday night. I looked well ahead at my work, often preventing blunders from being committed; I was a hardworking happy man, putting by something for old age. But where am I to get piecework now? One establishment has been working short time, another is doing little or nothing and most of the others don't see the advantages of the piecework system which cannot be carried to the greatest of success even in repair shops."

We have often suggested piecework, but the reply is that it cannot be adopted in a repair shop or on promiscuous work. Why not? An average job, even in a small shop, lasts a day; and how much trouble would it be to estimate the value and keep an account (in a small shop) of six jobs a week? Any job done in a shop a second time can be estimated upon for piecework. Sometimes people say: "We do not know what the job is worth." Of course they do not. If a man ties his arm in a sling he must expect it to grow weak. Just the same with the judgment and perception: men used to piecework can estimate how much there is in a job down to an hour's work in a week; but men who never give the subject a moment's thought cannot. "When I'm too old to work at all," said our friend, "there will be no such thing as daywork, except to laborers."—*Scientific American.*

HARD TIMES

To the Editor of the World:

SIR: Fifty-nine years ago when the English yeomanry massacred the starving operatives of Manchester at Peterloo, England had as hard times as we have at present, resulting from similar causes. These were waste of war, high tariff and excise duties, redundant depreciation and irredeemable currency, shrinking prices after high speculative values, large Government expenditure and extravagance.

How did English statesmen restore their country's prosperity? Sir R. Peel effected the resumption of Specie Payments; Huskisson modified the navigation laws and lessened the tariff; Canning lowered the sliding scale duties on corn. The effect of such masterly legislation was to make England

moderately prosperous. But this was but the dawning of a brighter day, when the great legacy that the genius of a poor Scotch professor gave his country—"The wealth of Nations"—was to bring forth its fruits. "The hour and the man had arrived," when Sir Robert Peel, in 1846, following up his reduction of the tariff in 1822, swept away the corn laws, the most cursed monopoly that ever oppressed a people, inaugurating free trade in England. The result of such wise statesmanship has been to make England's prosperity the wonder of the world.

Now, does any sane man doubt that this country can be raised from its present wretched condition to prosperity by equally good statesmanship? There is not a doubt of it because the whole of its business depression proceeds from bad laws. It must be impolitic laws alone that make the present extreme hard times, for God has given us everything to make us prosperous—an energetic race of people, well educated; an extensive and fertile country, a fine climate, an immense sea coast, large navigable rivers and lakes, mines of coal, iron, gold silver and copper.

While admitting that part of the present distress has been caused by a destructive and extensive civil war, I yet maintain that our restoration to prosperity is prevented by the continuance of high protective duties on imports. This is no time for half measures. The party who will succeed in ruling us for the next twenty years will be a party who shall make a platform which shall proclaim Specie Payments, repeal of protective duties on imports, a tariff for revenue only, economy in Government expenditure. The first measure of importance will be the restoration of Specie Payments, so that capital can be safely lent to encourage and promote new enterprises. The next measure and that of the most importance will be the repeal of all protective duties on imports, because they act as a Government bounty to misdirect labor and capital from a greater to a less profitable production, are indirect taxes on the consumer and in the long run ruin the protected interest by misdirecting too much labor and capital into the favored pursuits, causing overproduction and ruin.

All future tariffs must be for revenue only; duties must be placed on such articles as cannot be produced at home. If the necessity for more revenue should compel duties to be levied on foreign commodities, such as we can likewise produce, an excise duty must be placed on the latter equivalent to the import duty on the former.

To restore prosperity to the country the shackles must be removed from trade. To sell to advantage we must have freedom to buy. Therefore low import duties must be immediately adopted. Last year the average duties on articles not free were 46 per cent. What an absurdity? Reduce these duties to 15 per cent. even if you have to impose direct taxes to enable you to do so. Encourage imports, and exports will take care of themselves. Millions of people in Europe who live on potatoes and coarse grains, if you lessen your duties on imports will be enabled to consume your breadstuffs and provisions.

Fifty per cent. duty on foreign commodities is a disgrace to the spirit of the nineteenth century. It is as suicidal a policy as if our Government had by artificial means lessened the depth of water in all our seaports by one-third, or had issued a proclamation to all foreign countries, declaring, "You may send your merchandise here, but our Custom house officers will seize one third of the goods and confiscate and sell them for the benefit of the home producers of the same goods to get one-third more value from the general consumers." This would precisely have the same effect as a 50 per cent. protective import duty.

Away with such nonsense. Every dollar's worth of goods imported is as much the result of Amer-

ican labor as if it were produced in Massachusetts or Connecticut.—How absurd to misdirect the labor of a hundred men and a certain amount of capital to produce a given quantity of iron at home, when the labor of sixty-six men and one-third less capital would produce as much wheat as would exchange for an equal quantity of foreign iron. That is precisely the effect of a protective duty of 50 per cent. on imports. The whole system is false.

HENRY KEMP.

New York, May 4, 1877.

PROPHETIC HISTORY.

The intensely warlike movements in the East will make the following items of interest to every American. They are taken from Baldwin's "Armageddon, or, United States in History." He regards Russia as the reorganization of the Roman Power. In his interpretation of the eleventh chapter of Daniel he makes Russia "the Willful King—Rome and Russia," "the King shall do according to his will." The King of the South shall push or butt at him; and the King of the North shall come against him like a whirlwind with chariots and horsemen and many ships.

England and France, or England and Turkey, will unite against Russia; yet, Russia is to take the countries this side the crossings, and is then to pass over into Asia, it would seem.

"He shall enter into the glorious land." This at once recalls his entrance into Palestine.

"Many countries shall be overthrown." This would literally imply the conquest of a great portion of Asiatic Turkey, with some exceptions.

"He shall stretch forth his hand upon the countries, and the land of Egypt shall not escape." African countries are here referred to, a part for the whole. "The Lybians and Ethiopians shall be at his steps."

Thus having obtained nearly all Europe, Asia, and Africa, he becomes indomitable, and his empire almost limitless. It emulates old Rome, as the possessor of three continents.

"But tidings out of the East and out of the North shall trouble him."

While engaged in these Southern conquests, he hears news from two directions, which enrages him. The Eastern news may be from Asia or America, the Northern from Europe or Briton.

"Therefore, shall he go forth with great fury to destroy, and to make away many."

The Russian Government has two great final works to do. The first is to destroy the Roman Church in Europe, and the other is to attack the United States. The tidings from the East and North may be the news of disaffection of the Papal Power, on account of the superiority, which Russia gives the Greek Church, and on account of the holy places in Judea. The word tidings seems to indicate great insurrections.

"He shall plant his tabernacles between the seas, in the glorious holy mountain."

As the Roman power, restored, and be overthrown, so the willful King or autocrat, is here seen planting his imperial tents in the land of Israel, restored.

The term "between the seas" is most graphically an expression of the situation of our Christian democracy, between the Atlantic and Pacific. Ascending, "he shall fall on the mountains of Israel. He shall come to his end, and none shall help him."

"At the time of the end" These things are to take place between 1876 and 1878: First, the destruction of the Roman Church; and, Second, The destruction of monarchy.—pp. 231-242.

Time will soon develop the correctness or incorrectness of these interpretations.

How to find out what's in a name: Put it on back of note.

WHAT I LIVE FOR.

I live for those who love me,
And for those who love me true;
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And awaits my spirit, too—
For all human ties that bind me,
For the task that God assigned me,
And the good that I can do.

I live to learn their story,
Who've suffered for my sake;
To emulate their glory,
And follow in their wake—
Bards, poets, martyrs, sages,
The noble of all ages,
Whose deeds crown history pages,
And Time's great volume make.

I live to hail the season,
By gifted minds foretold,
When men shall live by reason,
And not alone for gold;
When man to man united,
And every wrong thus righted,
The whole world shall be lighted
As Eden was of old.

I live for those who love me,
And for those who knew me true,
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And awaits my spirit too—
For the cause that needs assistance,
For the wrong that needs resistance,
For the future in the distance,
For the good that I can do.

A MODERN NOVEL.

VOL. I.

A winning smile,
A sunny smile,
A feather;
A tiny talk,
A pleasant walk
Together.

VOL. II.

A little doubt,
A playful pout,
Capricious;
A merry miss,
A stolen kiss,
Delicious!

VOL. III.

You ask mamma,
Consult papa,
With pleasure;
And both repent,
This rash event,
At leisure.

MR. PARKER AND HIS WHITE BULL-PUP.

Mr. Parker was walking down Broadway yesterday a benevolent smile on his ruddy countenance and a fat, white bull-dog trotting at his heels. Occasionally Mr. Parker would look at the dog and chuckle to himself.

"The Board of Aldermen be darned," said Mr. Parker. "I'm not going to put a four-foot strap on your neck, Marcus Aurelius," and Marcus Aurelius wagged his stump of tail. Just then a small boy exploded a bomb directly under the dog's black nose, and that animal gave a howl and made a dash at the small boy.

"Look a year," yelled a policeman to Mr. Parker, "you want to put a strap on that year dawg. He's mad."

"He is not mad," said Mr. Parker.

"Well, old feller, whose the judge I say that year dawg mad, and I'm going to knock 'im on the head with my club."

Mr. Parker for a moment looked frightened. Suddenly however a twinkling came into his eye, and drawing himself up to his full height he addressed the policeman haughtily.

"Officer, you evidently do not know who we are. We had desire to preserve our incognito, but force us to reveal ourselves. We are the Grand Duke Alexis! and that is our bull-dog. That dog is all alien; he is not a citizen, and must not be bound by foreign laws and straps. Do you wish to empoir our land in a war with Russia? If you do just club that dog."

"Well call off your dawg then," said the policeman.

"Here, Blotivkinourskironobiskinaschowhookouski," said Mr. Parker, without the slightest hesitation.

"Well I'm blowed," mused the officer as Mr. Parker and his dog disappeared. "I'm blowed of that dawg couldn't work a free lunch route off the people's legs afore the Juke could pronounce half his name."—*N. Y. World.*

If men depended on the judgments of their neighbors for their passports to heaven, no one would get there.

THINGS BEING DOWN TO HARD PAN, THE BUSINESS INTERESTS MUST REVIVE.

WASHINGTON, May 18.—Secretary Sherman returned yesterday from New York, where he placed \$5,000,000 of the four and a half per cents, on the market, as a step toward resumption under the market, as a step toward assumption under the bill for resuming Jan. 1, 1879. This evening he said he hoped to proceed under the bill without interruption. The country had reached hard pan, prices were on a specie basis, and it would be little less than an act of cruelty to take every step possible to relieve the people of the incubus of an irredeemable currency. His chief fear was of an apprehension prevalent at the West which had spread to other parts of the country, that by resuming the Government would strip the country of all its paper money and leave nothing but gold and silver for the payment of debts and the transaction of business. Should this feeling take strong enough hold upon Congress, it might seriously embarrass the operations of the Administration. He saw on other reason to expect difficulty or delay. Sherman declined to say whether Hayes would or would not veto any act extending the time for resumption. All the signs where good, and he proposed to go forward steadily. He spoke with great hopefulness.

WHAT WAS FORGOTTEN.

The consequences that would ensue to the country by putting into the office of President a man with a little title manufactured as Mr. Hayes's title has been, were left entirely out of view by the men who constructed that title. They proceeded upon the assumption that no matter what might be the materials out of which they fashioned it, the people of the United States are such lovers of peace, and have so much at stake in public order, that they would acquiesce in any result rather than have a sanguinary contest for the possession of the Executive office.

This calculation short-sighted and desperate left out of view the enormous injury to the feelings of men that must be produced by requiring submission to that which could not be regarded as anything but a great public wrong. It left out of view all that infinite mischief which was to ensue from a violent, unwarrantable indefensible construction of constitutional provisions; a construction which has made the electoral colleges mere machines for defeating the popular will and has gone far to work out their destruction. It left out of view the spectacle of a President coming in contact with a people who cannot see him without seeing what is stamped upon his brow, the indelible marks of a fraudulent title; and, a party maintaining that it had chosen a President through electoral votes of a State in which the same tampering with the popular votes had aimed to appoint and it is confessed not to have appointed, a Governor.

For all these and a thousand other consequences of making President as Mr. Hayes has been made, no man who is entitled to be regarded as a representative of that majority whose votes were given to his opponent is in any way representative of that majority or is in sympathy with it, can by any act allow it to be supposed that he means to overlook the wrong.—*N. Y. Sun.*

A MAN with water on the brain should wear a pig hat.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

It isn't a blighted ambition and blasted hopes that makes a young man want to shuffle off this mortal coil and lie down in the silent grave and be at rest, so much as to suddenly remember, as he passes at the door of the opera house with Laura on his arm, that he forgot to get tickets and that his pocket-book is at home in his pocket of every-day trousers.